## A DETECTIVE'S STORY

The Treachery of Italians Who Come to This Country.

SUCCESS AS COUNTERFEITERS

They Hate to Work and Think to Money Quickly by Shoving the Queer-The Story of Glotani Rosso and How He Accomplished His Revenge.

AN EX-CHIEF OPERATIVE OF THE United States secret service has been in Weshington for a week. He has been a detective for over twenty years, and in the course of his corrice has displayed remarkable aptitude in ferreting out Italian counterfeiters. Perhaps no one in the United States is so well acquainted with the characteristics of the Italian race as is the ex-chief. It is not often that he can be induced to speak of his professional experiences, partly on account of the efficial position that he has held, and partly beenuse he does not want to incur the enmity of a people who use their stilettes so freely. The other evening, however, he let loose the strings on his reticence and talked unreservedly about the Italians as a class who are now living in this country.

CAN'T TRUST AN ITALIAN. "You know," he said, "I have been nearly all my life in New York and professionally I have seen a good deal of the Italian race. As a people I would not trust them any farther than I treacherous, vindictive, impetuous and revengeful. Now, if I should call any one of you here a d-d scoundrel, which of course I wouldn't, we would have it out right here and now, but with those infernal Italians it is different. They never forget an insultational. different. They never forget an insultathough it may be years before an opportunity is offered to wipe out the disgrace. They will ask you to their own house and there will not ask you to their own house and there will not be the slightest indication that the insult is re-membered, yet while you are drinking to the health of the host and your glass is at your mouth the host will stab you. Now that is no "Do you think that the Mails exists in this

"No. I do not. I may be mistaken, but I have had many years of experience in New York and Philadelphia in dealing with Italians, and I never yet have found any organization of that nature. In New York there are a great many Italiana, and there would be an organization there if anywhere. There is no particular settlement of them. They are distributed all over the city. One may be situated on Baxter street, another on Avenue C and 14th street and still another on Avenue C and 14th street and still another on Avenue C and 14th street and still another on Avenue C and 14th street and still another on Avenue C and 14th street and still another on Avenue C and 14th street and vat there is no ship or communication existing be-the inhabitants of those settlements. relationship or communication existing the second of the s

OBIGIN OF THE MAPIA. "Perhaps you know that it was originally society founded on patriotic principles. It was established in 1848 or 1850 to oppose the rule of the bourbons and the very best men in Sicily were then numbered among its members. But after Garibaldi put Victor

in character as those who live in Sicily. Thousands of Italians come to this country every year. Every one I have ever had arrested carried a stiletto or razor and sometimes a pistol. Many of them are Sicilians and the most of that class are members of the Mafia. One may go to Boston, another land at New York, another go to Philadelphia or New Orleans and so on. There is no distinct understanding where they are going to locate when they leave Sicily. When they get here there is no arrangement on the part of the Mafia by which they are taken care of or sent to some particular city. It may care of or sent to some particular city. It may so happen that they may most in St. Louis or Cincinnati. They of course will talk over the old times in Sicily. Probably they are without money, for they never work if they can help it, and then a job is put up to rob or kill some one of their countrymen who has a little money. As I have learned, they make no specific plan. They simply say we will do it as we used to in

Sicily. That means a stab in the side from behind.

"Italians generally are bad, but these men from sicily are unmitigated villains. They mem to have no conception of morality and are devoid of any of the refinements of modern they have no compunction what-

"Yes; that is true. They never work if they can help it. You see the very nature of their

don't know whether that was the real cause or not. At any rate he came to New York and went into business as a barber. He was doing very well and was making money when he was called upon by his former colleagues of the Mafin, whom he had forsworn, to contribute to their support. He refused to pay and one night he had his face broke, as they term a cut down the cheek. That mark always indicates that the man is a suspect and, of course, he is slighted and reviled by his countrymen. As a revenge for the injury as well as the indignity that he had suffered Palats came to me to give information about the practices of his villainous countrymen. It is to him that I owe my knowledge of the Mafia. He wrote a history of it in Italian and I sent it to St. Lonis to a factive of Rome, who translated it for me. I always found this man to be true to me, but I think that he was actuated more by a desire to obtain revenge than by any other motive."

"How is it," was asked, "that Italians become counterfeiters?"

WET STALLARS BECOME COUNTERPRITERS "Well, you see, there are various reasons. One is that those who do counterfeit are naturally inclined to crime because of their revengeally inclined to crime because of their revenge-ful dispositions, which have been formed by generations of vendettas and aggravated by the spirit of the Maña and brigandage. They don't know how to work honestly and they won't work if they can help it. They have got to live some way. They are uneducated and ignorant, and perhaps they find that the pastime they in-dulge in of murdering for the sake of pittnder of some one of their countrymon is too luxu-rious as well as too dangerous to be continued

da doll; me nows counterfits.' I have learned that there is not much counterfeiting in Sicily, if there is any, so the Sicilians have acquired the art since they have been in this country."

THE STORY OF GIOTANI BOSSO.

The old detective was asked to relate some of his experiences with the Italians. "Well," said he, "I am not now in government service and I don't know that I am bound to secrecy in this particular case, insemuch as the man
I have in mind is now doing twelve years in
Sing Sing. I think his character bears out everything that I have said of the Italians as a race.
His name is Giotani Rosso, and he is known to
be a murderer of three or four people, a jnilbreaker, a traitor, a counterfeiter, an incendibe a murderer of three or four people, a juli-breaker, a traitor, a counterfeiter, an incendi-ary, and if there ever was a Mafa in New York he was at the head of it. It would take all night to tell the history of that man. He was just steeped in crime and still his conscience was so blunted to all feeling that he did not think that he had done anything wrong. I don't think, however, that Dante could have conceived a more villainous character. "Rosso had to leave New York for some ime and went to New Orleans. While there he killed a man and was sentenced to be hung, but the governor commuted his sentence to imprisonment for life.

HOW HE GOT PARDONED. "After Rosso got into prison at Baton Rouge e went to work and organized a scheme to get away. The plan included the whole prison and had been worked up very successfully. The night before the escape was to have been made Bosso went to the warden and informed him Hosso went to the warden and informed him of the proposed plan. Upon investigation it was found that Rosso had told the truth and for his part in the disclosure the governor pardoned him. Soon after that he came back to New York and started a small store on Baxter street. It was not long before the store was set on fire and the eatire contents were burned. His claim for insurance was resisted by the in-surance companies on the ground that Rosso had acted as an incendiary and was therefore guilty of arson. It was a funny thing about hat suit. It was brought forth in evidence that losso's previous history was thoroughly bad, but still the proof was not conclusive that he had set fire to his store, although it was almost certain that he had done so. Nevertheless he got a verdict for \$250. I asked the foreman of the jury afterward how it was that they had said, 'Rosso's lawyer was a mighty good fellow and we knew he would not get a cent for what he had done if we didn't bring in a small

judgment in favor of the Dago. HE GIVES INFORMATION. "Well, later on Rosso came to see me one day in my office. I was then working on a gang of counterfeiters who had been turning out some very good work and the queer was circulating in large quantities. He said, 'You de chiefs?'
"Yes.' I knew him the instant he came in.
"Yous knows me?"

"Yes, I have your picture in my rogues" gallery. I showed it to him and he had the impudence to deny that he was the original.

"Me gota soma informash. Me knowa place You come with me. I shown de place. You come alone I shows. You come three, four men I no shows.'

"I said to myself this is a trap on the part of that old villain to get me into his clutches, but I asked him where the place was. He told me that it was on 153d street, on the east side. A bad locality, and I thought to myself that he wanted to get me out there alone and then wanted to get me out there alone and then slash me. I must confess I felt rather timid about going, not so far as my personal safety was concerned, but I was timid because I did not want to kill Rosso, and if he attempted to cut me I made up my mind to kill him just as quick as I would shoot a mad dog.

at the station of the elevated on 150th street members. But after Garibaldi put Victor Emanuel on the throne of Italy in 1861, the lofty purposes of the Mafia as a political organization having been accomplished, it soon lost its standing of respectability. The society was so thoroughly organized, however, that it was so thoroughly organized, however, that it was so thoroughly organized to go ahead and when he got to the place to the next day. I had him shadowed, and he so thoroughly organized, however, that it was continued for sinister purposes and was made a clock for brigandage. The Mafia is now made a drop his handkerchief, pick it up and then up of the worst element of the island. It is simply one large aggregation of brigands and gus, which I carried in my trouser's packet. ply one large aggregation of brigands and gun, which I carried in my trouser's pocket. I samply one large aggregation of originals and guil, which I carried in my tronser's pocket. I sembraces all of the cutthroats and robbers in Knew it would shoot by just pulling the trigger. However, Rosso did not mean any treachery carlier days and the whole island is governed through fear by this powerful society. through fear by this powerful society.

"The local government of Sicily is powerless to break up the influence of the Mafia. Occasionally a police officer is murdered and it is then made too hot for the assassin to remain in them made too hot for the assassin to remain in the made too hot for the made too h casionally a police officer is murdered and it is
then made too hot for the assassin to remain in
Sicily, even though he is protected by the baneful influence of the society. Then the outlaw
comes to this country.

All quata, and da halfa. The success of this man,
who was called Colandrino, had been so great
that he had taken all of Rosso's customers away
from him. So you see Rosso came to me to get
Colandrino arrested and sent to prison so that the way of pluster of paris, acids or metals

NOT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE. "There really was nothing for me to base my suspicions on that the men were the counterfeiters I had been looking for, consequently I could not get a warrant for their arrest. If I had been certain that they were engaged in counterfeiting I could have broken in the house, but if I had broken in without a warrant and found that they were not breaking the law and if I had been obliged to kill one or two of the Italians I had nothing to fall back upon except the word of an incendiary, cutthroat, murderer and all round villain. You know a man's house is his castle and you must have good evidence. and all round villain. You know a man's house is his castle and you must have good evidence of rascality going on inside before you can force an entrance. Well, old Rosso came to see me again. In the mean-time he had been going to the house of Colandrino every day. He said: 'Colandrino make himself a richa man. He have 400 doll in image. "Italians generally are bad, but these men from sicily are unmittigated villains. They seem to have no conception of morality and are devoid of any of the refinements of modern civilization. They have no compunction whatever about stabbing one of their countrymen, but it is the rarest thing that they will attack any one who is not an Italian. Among themselves they quarrel and fight all the time. So long as they are left alone to settle their difficulties in their own sweet way they do not molest outsiders, but if they are teased and worried they will cut and shoot any one who is a foreigner as quickly as they would if the asmilant was an Italian."

"You mid that these Italians, or rather Sicilians, were averse to work for a living."

"You, the said: Colandrino maks himself a richa man. He have 400 doll in image. He said: Colandrino in image. He sella da image and sails back to Messina on a Saturday night. He taka his one wife and two child. You knows resta Colandrino I give no more informash.' I did not tell Rosso I kept a watch on the house and on Friday Colandrino went over in Brooklyn to the office of a steamship company, probably to secure his passage. The next day he and his wife went to the house of Rosso. At my last interview with Hosso I told him that I thought it would be much better to let Colandrino get out of the country with his family than to arrest him and send him up for a long term and then oblige the government to support his family. Rosso must have taken that as my ultimatum. On Saturday he invited Colandrino to his house to take a bottle of wine and drink to each other's prosperity. This I learned afterward from my

prosperity. This I learned afterward from my Italian operative, Palats. Colandrino went and was accompanied by his wife.

ROW BOSSO GOT RIS SEVENCE.

"In telling the story Palats said: 'Mr. de swish come de stilets Mr. de Rosso, and Mr. Colendrino is cuta from de brow down the nose. Den Mr. de Rosso run away. He great coward.

"Well," the chief continued. "De Rosso was

"Well," the chief continued, "De Rosso was caught, but do you know that we could not get Colandrino to swear that he had been cut by de Rosso. It is the most remarkable thing about these Italians that they never will squeal on one another. They have no moral scruples on the subject, but they know that if they ever get well enough to go about the man who is squealed on or some one of his friends will be the means of killing him."

The brig Edith, Capt. Pierce, while lying at anchor off Quarantine, Hawkins' Point, near Baltimore, was run into and sunk by the schooner Henry S. Little shortly before 4 o'clock yesterday morning. No lives were lost. o'clock yesterday morning. No lives were lost. Louis Wilson, a hand on the schooner, had both legs badly mashed by the anchor falling on him. The Edith was loaded with sugar consigned to the Baltimore sugar refinery. The Little was light and was on her way to Baltimore from New York Capt. L. E. Pierce of the Henry S. Little lays the blame for the accident to the Edith. He hays she had no business where at anchor (broadside across the channel), but still if her lights had been properly placed the accident could not have occurred. The Edith had a cargo of 3,575 bags of sugar for the Baltimore Sugar Refining Company and valued at \$25,000, partially insured.

THIN OR GRAY HAIR AND BALD BRADE, SO CH

FLYING MACHINES.

Prof. Langley Says We Will Yet Travel Through the Air.

HOW BIRDS MANAGE TO FLY.

ced Thinkers on This Subject Have No Faith in Balloons or Plapping Apparatus-They Believe That Aeroplanes Will Be Employed to Imitate the Searing Bird.

MEN WILL YET LEARN NOW TO FLY.
Prof. Langley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, so declared the other day in an address delivered here before the National Academy of Sciences, a synopsis of which was published in THE STAR at the time. This ought to give much encouragement to thinkers who hope that mankind will some day secure domain in the element of birds, just as it has already done, thanks to the evolution of submarine boats and diving gear, in that of fishes. The distinguished scientist referred to expressed confidence that the contrivance of the future for aerial navigation would be on the kite principle. ELEMENTS OF BUOYANCY.

heavier than the atmosphere cannot be suspended in that medium without motion. A kite, of sticks and paper, is much heavier than the fluid which it displaces, but it is sustained aloft. You can find an example much more striking, however, in the eagle or the frigate bird, which, though an animal of considerable weight, remains poised in the sky upon extended pinions motionless for hours together, so that a telescope may be trained on it. Thousands of feet above the earth, it is sustained without movement of a feather, though in a rarefied atmosphere. heavier than the atmosphere cannot be sus-pended in that medium without motion. A the earth, it is sustained without movement of a feather, though in a rarefied atmosphere. This is possible because the suspended fowl has an instinctive knowledge of the way in which to utilize the air currents for its support. When man has learned how this can be done, he will be able to fly. The most advanced investigators in this subject reject the balloon and all other such lifting devices as impracticable; a gas lighter than air can never be safely confined within a receptacle that is not weighty, and the same objection applies to a vacuum Ballooning today is about where it was when it was first invented, and in the nature of things it can never get much further. Aiuminumislight for a metal, but it is several times too heavy to be successfully utilized for such purposes. Pray, what has become of those aluminum trains of cars that were to be run through the trains of cars that were to be run through the air from Chicago to New York six months ago at sixty minutes the trip? THE SCHOOL OF "FLAPPERS."

There is a school of flying machine inventors who may be designated as the "flappers," inasmuch as their idea is to sustain their constant me. I must confess I felt rather timid about going, not so far as my personal safety was concerned, but I was timid because I did not want to kill Rosso, and if he attempted to cut me I made up my mind to kill him just as quick as I would shoot a mad dog.

MET HIM, BUT NO GOOD RESULT.

"However, I told him that I would meet him at the station of the elevated on 150th street the next day. I had him shadowed, and he staved sometime. The next day I kept him waiting half an hour. My mer were watching him ali the time and noticed that he came atone. I met him, and as I passed by told him to go ahead and when he got to the place to drop his handkerchief, pick it up and then walk on. I followed him with my hand on my gun, which I carried in my trouser's pocket. I knew it would shoot by just pulling the trigger.

However, Rosso did not mean any treachery asmuch as their ides is to sustain their con-

UNDERSTOOD IN THEORY.

These principles which the eagle applies for purposes of flight are perfectly understood in he theory of mechanics. It is only necessary to adapt them with suitable apparatus in order to give to human beings like powers. True, the bird is lighter in proportion to its size than is man; its bones are hollow and filled with warm air from the lungs. But the difference in this respect is not very material, and it may easily be com-pensated for by bigger wings. Power to flap them is not what is required, inasmuch as the start can be made from a height; what is wanted is the knowledge which inherited ex-

IN AUSTRALIA. What can be done in this way may be accomplished on a larger scale. Lest this proposition be disputed it will be sufficient to refer sition be disputed it will be sufficient to refer to a flying machine recently patented in Australia. It weights altogether nineteen pounds and its backbone is a long copper cylinder two inches m diameter, filled with compressed air. The compressed air supplies power for a small engine, weighing ten pounds, at the rear end of the cylinder, which works a fan propeller. To the backbone on either side is attached a great wing of light material, so that the whole apparatus resembles a big butterfly, with two fans for a tail. This contrivance has been made to fly horizontally 360 feet. Of course, it is only a beginning, but, all the same, here is the nearest approach to the practicable flying machine of the future thus far attained.

PROF. LANGLEY'S MACHINE.

THE PASTER THE EASIER.

In like manner Mr. Langley has demonstrated that the faster the flight the less is the sustaining power necessary. You can convince your self very easily that this is so by the same seif very easily that this is so by the same simple experiment that he employed to illustrate the proposition. Take an ordinary shingle and drop it upon the ground. It will fall in a fraction of a second. Then take the same shingle and skim it horizontally through the air. Three or four seconds will perhaps clapse before it touches the ground. The more power you employ in throwing it supposing that you do it fairly skillfully, the more slowly it will sink. To a clam shell the same proposition applies, as every small boy will tell you. And why is this thus? Simply because the shingle or the clam shell, well thrown, is upheld by the currents of air, as a bird is in flight, and the swifter they go the more easily they are so sustained. This seems very surprising, but let us see if it is not readily accounted for. Did you ever skate over thin fee? If so, you did not stop long in one place, lest it break beneath you. You knew instinctively that the faster you went and the more your weight was in this manner distributed the less thickness of ice was needed to support you. If you were able to travel fast enough the surface of still water would uphold you. Likewise that other fluid called air if you could only achieve sufficient speed.

THE TWO PRINCIPLES. Now you have the two important principles on which the flying of the future will be based. First, the bird idea must be applied to utilize the currents of air for support in that element.
All flying machines that dispensed with halloons have employed the bird as their model in more or less degree, but they have almost in-

bird relies for fight upon flapping. The medels for such contrivances at the patent office here show this sufficiently well. Aeroplanes will represent the bird's wings in the air ship of the time to come. Such, at all events, is the surmise, and the likelihood seems to be that a steam engine of small dimensions, though powerful, will supply the motive force. Secondly, the motive force required will be least for the greatest speed, and so proportionately.

AN IMPORTANT DIFFICULTY.

Prof. Langley's notion seems to be this, that such a contrivance as he conceives, elevated in the air, would have no trouble to uphold itself in motion supposing that its engineer knew how to deflect its supporting wings. In this point there lies an important difficulty, inasmuch as the most intelligent human being has no knowledge whatever of the art which the birds have transmitted to their progeny for thousands and thousands of generations, ever since, as the scientists say, they were first evolved from reptiles in an ancient geological epoch. But the honorable secretary of the Smithsonian Institution is of the opinion that it is possible for human beings, with practice fortified by their superior intelligence, to learn how to use wings in this way, just as small boys acquire the art of walking upon stilts, although such members are altogether artificial. When this art has been acquired, man, hitherto untutored in the science of navigating space, will launch himself abroad and chase the fugacious meteorites on tireless motor-actuated pinions.

Seriously, however, there does not seem to be any good reason wherefore such mechanical principles as these should not he speceafully the air, would have no trouble to uphold itself

soriously, however, there does not seem to be any good reason wherefore such mechanical principles as these should not be successfully applied for navigating the air. At the beginning the problem of steering and the weight of the motor present themselves as the two most serious obstacles. Prof. Langley has proposed to get over these preliminary difficulties by running the first flying machine on a wire, such as is used for a certain sort of electric cars. In this case, however, the The air possesses elements of buoyancy which have not been recognized hitherto. There is no truth in the popular conception that a body electric cars. In this case, however, the machine is to fly above, perhaps at a height of 200 feet, with an attachment to the wire below that runs along the tops of telegraph-like poles. A motor at each end of the line will do the propelling. Thus there will be no engine carry and the wire will do the steering.

HOW DID THE BIRDS LEARN fiv originally? To escape from their carnivor ous enemies they developed wings and acquired the art of navigating the air through practice. Now that the true principle of flight has been discovered it would seem possible to apply it to mechanics so as to secure for man, with sufficient experience, the same power. The muscles of the human being are not strong enough for the purpose, and so he must construct a chariot of some sort to carry him, with a machine on board to do the work. Prof. Langley's ideas on this subject are shared by the foremost scientific men of the day who have interested themselves in aeronantics—a branch of research to which a great deal of at-tention is being paid at present. Their almost unanimous conclusion is that the soaring bird must be the model for the successful flying contrivance of the future. The inrestigation of problems respecting aerial voli-ation is no longer relegated to cranks; in fact the foremost investigator in this line now liv-ing, Mr. Octave Chapute, is president of the American Society of Engineers. He took occasion recently to call attention to some rather absurd conclusions reached the astonishing statement as the result of their calculations that a swallow in flying forty niles an hour must exert one-tenth of orse power, an eagle ten horse power and rty-pound crane about forty horse power. o suppose that an eagle or a turkey buzzard as strong as ten horses he deemed a trifle

Regarding the rate of propulsion of the future lying machine. Prof. J. Elfreth Watkins, the istinguished mechanical expert, declares that it simply depends upon the size of the propeller used and the rate at which the fans are re-volved. In his opinion the old theory that the atmosphere was too tenuous a medium for propeller to act upon has been demonstrated propeller to act upon has been demonstrated to be nonsense. Sufficient resistance is offered by it to render possible an enormous speed, so that it would not be too much to surmise that a properly constructed air ship might accomplish the distance between Chicago and New York within an hour's time. Necessarily, however, there would be a limit to the rapidity of flight, inaspect of the property o much as a propeller ceases to propel after a certain number of revolutions per second has been reached. It is open to any one's observa-tion that a vessel's propeller, operating in the water, often revolves much faster when the craft is moving slowly than when it is going

Attention was called only the other day by Mr. Hazen to the tremendous revolution which the introduction of practicable air ships would start can be made from a height; what is wanted is the knowledge which inherited experience, vulgarly termed "instinct," has given the fowl as to how to adapt the angles of the wings to the air currents.

This is precisely what Prof. Langley has been experimenting with. What he is attempting is to produce a machine adapted to flotation upon the air currents, like a kite. You can find a very simple illustration of the principle he is working on in the trick done with playing cards by the prestidigitator Hermann, who cards by the prestidigitator Hermann, who it is supposited to be devised for shooting very simple illustration of the principle he is working on in the trick done with playing cards by the prestidigitator Hermann, who it is supposited to be devised for shooting vertically, and the general defending a position on terra firma would be obliged to assail the winged foe with volleys of bombs directed upward, as one would shoot ducks on the wing. Should such a state of affairs come than the atmosphere, but judiciously projected it mounts to a great height and distance with very little force. It would stay up, too, even if thrown outdoors, supposing that it possessed the intelligence necessary to accommodate its surface to the winds.

IN AUSTRALIA.

In a triple of the inherited experior in the methods of offense and defense in war. Fortifications, on which it is suggested that Uncle Sam shall expend \$20,000,000 as soon as possible, would be of little use against flying machines that could drop dynamite and other explosives from alort. Likewise ships of war, however heavily armored, would be at the mercy of hostile aerial navigators. In such a case batteries of a description altogether new would have to be devised for shooting vertically, and the general defending a position on terra firma would be obliged to assail the winged foe with volleys of bombs directed upward, as one would shoot ducks on the wing. Should such a state of affairs come to pass, it seems likely that the conflicts of the future between n inherited ex- work in the methods of offense and defense in

Having achieved the conquest of the waters it is natural that man should likewise desire the mastery of the air, and thus in all ages the human race has been ambitious to fly. The earliest attempt in this direction recorded by tradition is the mythical account of Daedaius. tradition is the mythical account of Daedalus, who, having constructed the celebrated labyrinth for Minos, King of Crete, was so unfortunate as to offend that monarch, and being imprisoned, escaped with the aid of wings made of feathers cemented with wax. Another ancient story is of Archytas of Tarentum, who constructed a wooden pigeon that had power to fly, so nicely was it baianced by weight and put in motion by inclosed air. that had power to ny, so nicely was it balanced by weight and put in motion by inclosed air. If there is any truth in the account it seems probable that Archytus was a fakir and worked his bird with a string, as is done on the stage. The sncients, generally speaking, made no at-tempts in the direction of aeronautics, that the power of flight could only appertain to the most rewarful gods. Four centurity again inspecies. would ascend in the air, but it is not recorded that the experiment was ever subjected satisfactorily to scientific test. In 1670 a Jesuit, Francis Lana, proposed to make four copper balls, each twenty-five feet in diameter and only four one-thousandths of an inch in thickness, from which the air was to be exhausted. To these balls a basket was to be attached, with a mast and sail, and the calculation was that the contrivance would carry 1,200 pounds. Unfortunately, it was discovered that the excessive thinness of the copper spheres would cause them to be broken when a vacuum was created inside of them by the spheres would cause them to be broken when a vacuum was created inside of them by the pressure of the atmosphere from without.

Nevertheless, this suggestion approached more nearly to a practicable idea in acrostatics than any other offered up to the time of the invention of the balloon in 1785 by the brothers Montgelifer. So late as 1775 Joseph Galien, a Dominican friar and professor in philosophy, contended that it would be possible to collect the rarified air of some lofty mountain top and inclose it in a huge vessel a mile in diameter, which would carry fifty-four times as much weight as did Noah's ark. Funnily enough, nearly all the early theorists on this subject imagined that the atmosphere merely covered the earth like a shallow ocean, on which the aerial vessels they had in mind were intended to float, like ships in the sea, with their upper portions in the

Her Pouket Book. Her Pecket Book.

It holds so very many things:
Some postage stamps, two inger rings,
Her cards, the program of a play—
Cut out and kept to mark the day—
A button hook, a photograph.
A penknife that would make you laugh,
Bome pins and a few scrups of verse,
And a receipt in accents terse,
"To Keep a Husband Home at Night,"
And one "To Make the Hands Grow White
Bome samples small of silk and lace,
A bit of powder for the face,
Three bridge tickets, a faded flower,
Bome bombonettes of lemon sour,
A dry goods bill that would appail,
And thirty centlets—
That is all!

The Florida Senatorship Fignt.

The Florida house of representatives yesterday seated the two sitting members from Suwanee county. Senator Call's friends hoped the contestants would have been seated, as they would have voted for him. The vote in cancus resulted: Call, 49; Mays, 42; Bloxam, 8; Long, 1; blank, 2. Recessary to a choice, 64.

The Massachusetts house of representatives need to be engrossed a bill limiting to 125

NEW YORK NOTES.

PREPARING POR THE WORLD'S PAIR-WESTE IN NEW YORK-DE. BRIGGS IS FULL OF FIGHT-PROSPECTS OF SHELLING THE METROPOLIS-NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Special Correspondence of The Evening Star. New York, May 7, 1891.

DREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD'S fair are taking tangible shape in this vicinity, owing to the arrival here of Alexander D. Anderson, with whom you are more or less familiar in Washington. He is the special commissioner having in charge the eastern headquarters, with Mr. Delmore Elwell as secretary. Rooms have just been opened in the Stewart building, and at this point the work for the exhibition will center for the next two years. Mr. Anderson is already meeting a stream of visitors making all sorts of inquiries, and undoubtedly he will be a very busy man and will require all the capital stock of good health and good nature with which he seems to be plenteously provided. Next week he will meet, by invitation, the dry goods trade, to explain to them what it is proposed to do at the exposition, and subsequently he will put himself in communication with other important business, elements. Referring to the cabled accounts of Italy's unwiningness to be represented at Chicago he tells me that he is confident that Italy will be very well represented at the exposition. He has assurance to that effect from many of the leading Italian manufacturers and merchants, and whatever the government does or neclects to do Italy will have a ment does or neglects to do Italy will have a brilliant showing at Chicago. THE MUSICAL OPENINGS.

This has been a music week in New York. Beginning on Tuesday, we have had a notable series of musical entertainments in the Carne gie Music Hall. The dedicatory services of Tuesday night were of the most impressive order. Bishop Potter made an excellent ad-dress, and the music rendered on that occasion argued well for the future usefulness of the en-terprise. Wednesday night oratorio was given on a grand scale, and the rest of the week has been devoted to a series of entertainments of the finest character. Tschaikowsky has made aimself with glory by his able conducting Evidently the new music hall is to find a place for itself in the multitudinous attractions of the metropolis. Then as an incident of the week we had a most charming concert by Sant-ley, who strayed into this city unexpectedly, after an absence of nearly twenty years, reviv-ing memories of the great past by singing a few ballads with his own inimitable grace, before he took the steamer home. His sudden apparition among us and as sudden vanishing had something almost ghostly about it, and filled the air with memories of that famous combination which twenty years ago amazed the country. What a galaxy it was! Carl Formes, Santley, Wachtel, Parepa Rosa and Adelaide Phillips. It will be long before New York, even with all her modern musical improvements, is favored by such a conjunction of stars of the first magnitude. irst magnitude.

ONE OF THE GOOD BICH MEN. Charles Pratt, who died Monday, was the type of millionaire that would not offend Belamy or anybody else who took a tolerably wise riew of the use of money. Although he was one of the oil kings his ruling object in life was to help men to fight the battle of life, and the institute with which his name is linked is doing a noble work on a grand scale. The Pratt instiite is the product of wise thought directed in he line of practical usefulness, and if we could ered over the country we should go far toward solving some of the most troublesome social questions of the age. The foundation of the intitute called for over a million and a half of lollars, and this is merely the beginning. Fortunately his son sympathizes entirely with the motives and plans of his father and will carry on the work in the spirit in which it was under-

Early next week Dr. Briggs will publish his naugural address which made such a stir in the inaugural address which made such a sor in the religious world, adding to it copious notes called out by the discussion which the address has occasioned. The book would have ap-peared earlier but for the fact that Dr. Brigga has been very ill for the past four weeks with the grip and is even now very much debilitated. The book is certain to be the center of religious controversy and will probably more than equal as a literary event the famous pamphlet, "Whither," which Dr. Briggs published last year and which had an extraordinary sale. Although still an invalid from the grip Dr. Brigg is in fighting mood, and as he is a delegate to the general assembly from the New York Presbytery he will be very decidedly on hand in case his orthodoxy is called in question by that body. The New York Presbytery meets early next week and this will also be a most important event, as a report will then be submitted from a committee selected last month by the presbytery to consider Dr. Briggs' case. Probably, however, no action will be taken of a kind to forestall the action of the general assembly, which will meet at Detroit in about a fortnight.

OUR AERIAL TOLL BRIDGE. So the Brooklyn bridge is now free to pedes So the Brooklyn bridge is now free to pedestrians. This marks a new epoch in the life of this great public highway in the air. Little by little the charge for pedestrians has been reduced until one could buy a package of twenty-five tickets for five cents. After the 1st of July, however, the gates will be open and anybody can walk across that cares to do so. The charge for vehicles and for the railroad is still retained.

THE PROSPECT FOR SHELLING NEW YORK. The report of the New Orleans grand jury has revived interest in the Italian incident, but few believe that Italy will do anything beyond what Senator Plumb tersely calls "letter writin"." what Senator Plumb tersely calls "letter writin'."
I can say, however, apropos of this little unpleasautness, that the city is not so much at the mercy of the first ironclad that comes along as some think. I get it on very good authority that in a quiet way the government has control of torpedo boats so complete in their ability to swim under water as to make them very formidable. This is being kept very quiet, but is said to be a fact. Of course the problem of a submarine boat is an old one and quiet, but is said to be a fact. Of course the problem of a submarine boat is an old one and several nations have accomplished good results in this field of invention. But I am told that our government has practically solved the problem, and that we have a boat which can attack at will any ship, attach a torpedo under its keel and steam away with perfect safety to itself, all of which is respectfully submitted to the indignant Rudini. I was also talking with Capt. Kirkland, who has the dredging of the harbor in charge, and he said that within forty-eight hours the approaches to New York, both by way of the Narrows and Hell Gate, could be so obstructed that no ship could pass, and that outside of these obstructions there could be no effective shelling of the city. He said the trouble was to keep the channels open, not to shut them up. But, as I have said, nobody dreams of hostifities between this country and Italy.

Mr. Blaine has been having a very good time here this week and should have stored up some ozone against diplomatic hard work on his return to washington. He has taken a keen personal interest in the success of the new music hall, both from his intimate friendship

personal interest in the success of the new music hall, both from his intimate friendship with Mr. Carnegie and also because his gifted son-in-law is very energetically at work beating time as the central figure of the performances. He was himself the target of observation from every part of the house, but stood the scrutiny with the sangfroid of the well-trained lion.

We have had another close shave on the elevated, but with the good luck which follows good management nothing serious happened. The company are running the trains just as close together as they can, and on Thursday it was found impossible to stop the headway of one train on the 3d avenue line before it crushed into the train shead of it. Just what can be gained by increasing the terminal facilities of the elevated is not apparent, since the trains now are run at just as small an interval as possible during most of the day.

After a brief term of arrogant leadership snother labor dictator has come to grief and will do some hard labor for the state. Barondess, who has taken on very lordly sire in New York for a year and a half in state prison for blackmailing and extortion. He will have abundant opportunity, therefore, to muse over the wrongs of capital. He is one of the most offensive of all the bogus philosophers who have led workingmen into trouble and his fall and punishment meet with very general satisfaction.

Denial of a Revolt in Costa Rice.

ial of a Revolt in Costa Rica. Madrid deny that a revolution has broken out in Costa Rica. They declare that complete peace and order prevail throughout the whole An Extensive Fire in Rotterda: Yesterday the state board bended was

ASSASSINS LURED BY LOVE. Sophia Gunsburg, a Russian, Uses Mer

AROUND HER A BAND OF YOUNG MEN SWORN TO RILL THE CZAR SHE IS ARRESTED AND CON-

St. Petersburg Letter in the London Telegraph No authentic account has vet been given o the late political trial—or rather condemnations—of Russian nihilists for high treason for trial, in the English sense of the term, ther was none. I have just had a long conversation with one of the dignitaries who played the part of judge, jury and counsel for the crown dur-ing the brief ceremony, which began by accusation, was continued by voluntary confession and ended in condemnation to death; and the details communicated to him-which are worthy of implicit credence—throw a strong, if not lurid, light upon Russian nihilists in particular, and the Russian character generally, and if properly worked up by a Zolaistic realist would make a most sensational novel.

The ringlesder of the conspirators and no the case in Russian politics a woman; in this case a woman of excellent education, of iron will, of ravishing beauty and of undaunted courage, a woman in many respects superior to the celebrated Sophia Perovsky, who directed the operations that culminated in the foul murder of the late emperor, whom she soon afterward followed to the grave. This person, Sophia Gunsburg by name, narrated the event, ful story of her checkered life to her unsympathetic judges and narrated it in a most calm-unpassioned, objective way, which the most mpartial of historians might well envy.

She was a Jewess by birth, she said, and had been brought up in the pale of settlement out-side of which Jews are not allowed to wander at large. Her parents had given her the best education that was to be had under the unfavorable public and private conditions in which their lot was cast.

SOPHIA GUNSBURG'S PLAN.

Sophia saw many of the most estimable me and women of her nation compelled daily to barter their religion for a mess of pottage, or, for less still, the barren right to work for it. After having graduated in the ordinary establishments of intermediate education Sophia left her birthplace, to which she refuses the name of fatherland, and

dom.

In Geneva her vague inclinations and tendencies were gradually molded into a perfect system of cruel, cold-blooded revenge which that historic town that she meditated and brooded over the wrongs inflicted by Russia until, at last, she hatched a plot, the bare outlines of which make one shudder, and which was certainly more worthyof a fury in human shape than of a beautiful maiden standing upon life's threshold, with all the joys and pleasures of existence before her. Holding the government responsible for the innumerable evils that deluge the country she applied the autocratic principle to the extent of admitting that the government is the czar, and the czar she determined to slav. Such was the object of determined to slay. Such was the object of the plot. She resolved to gather together a select band

to assassinate the emperor on a day and in the manner fixed by her. She was determined that if one failed another should take his place, and still another after him, until at last the foul deed should be done. The emperor's successor, too, unless he struck out a new line of policy, was to be stamped out of existence in the same ruthless way, and thus red terror was to struggle with white until the evils comto such an extent that the most phlegmatic

FELL IN LOVE HERSELF. Sophia Gunsburg had no difficulty in attracting a sufficient number of love-sick young Russians, who were smitten by her beauty and grace or made enthusiastic by her eloquence. She sacrificed without hesitation or regret all that a pure woman holds dearest in life in order to maintain her hold over these young Cata-lines. She was not, however, wholly a mon-ster, nor was she exempt from all human weakpolitical plots, so that he continued down to the moment of his arrest in complete igno-

the moment of his arrest in complete ignorance of the part she was playing as regicide. One of the unsuccessful attempts on the czar's life early last year was the work of one of Sophia Gunsburg's body guards, and, had she not been arrested when she was, the present year of grace would probably have been the last of the reign of Alexander III.

When the prisoner had finished the impressive discourse containing the history of her life and crime, which had been occasionally interrupted by the questions and rebukes of the presiding dignitaries, the president asked her if she felt no compunction for the abominable deed she resolved and attempted to execute, no remorse for the cynical way in which she had divested herself of all female modesty. Her reply was an emphatic negative, which had divested herself of all female modesty. Her reply was an emphatic negative, which rang through the hall like the peal of a musical bell tolling for the death of a musical bride, and was juickly followed by the solemn singsong of the judge pronouncing the sentence of ignominious death.

ignominious death.

Her companions are condemned to various terms of hard labor in the mines—a sentence surpassing in severity the most painful kind of death—all except one, her lover, who because perfectly ignorant of her criminal plans was finally released after having languished in solitary confinement for a length of time sufficient to make him wish for a release into the life of this sublumary world or into the next. The emperor when informed of the death sentence commuted it to imprisonment for life. commuted it to imprisonment for life.

A MOTHER'S SACRIFICE. Sophia's parents are still living in the pale, and when her old mother heard of her con-Sophia's parents are still living in the pale, and when her old mother heard of her condemnation she offered to abandon Judaism and become a Christian in order to obtain the needful authorization to leave the pale of settlement and come up to St. Petersburg to see her dearly beloved daughter, who had gone so far astray from the path of duty since last they had met. The interview took place a few days ago at the fortress, and no more heartrending spectacle was ever before witnessed by the palegmatic jail officials, whose tears fell like rain.

The trembling mother approached her daughter whose hearty was brought out in greater.

Sor. A man broke his ieg there once. Are ye hurt, sor?"

"Not in the least."

"Thank the powers for that, sor. Oi always notice that the quieter a man kapes, the more attention he can pay to his fatin."

"And you're paid to do the talking, too. I hadn't thought about that."

"Now, sor, ye see from here the Great Causeway. Isn't that a grand soight, sor?"

"Well, that depends on what you call a—"

"Oh! tare an' owns, sor, ye've kilt yerself entoirely this toime. Don't attempt to roise, sor, till Oi get down to ye. Dear! dear! Are ye badly hurt, sor?"

ter, whose beauty was brought out in greater relief by the somber hue of the prison dress, and who moved slowly and with dignity toward her aged parent without the least symptom of tenderness, compunction or other emotion. Fanaticism had crushed out or at least re-Fanaticism had crushed out or at least repressed all tender sentiment.

"O Sophia! Sophia, don't you love your poor old mother, who bore you and nursed you so? Say you have not torn me from your heart, child. I'll go to the end of the world with you, sophia, my darling. Don't you remember the old times when you knew no evil? Oh, will they never come back again? I'll be a Christian, anything you like, if they only let me live with you and love you in Siberia. I'll never leave you again. I'll go with you to the mines of Siberia."

Talking thus and sobbing aloud she staggered to the wall and was supported by the jatiers.

West Virginia's World Fair Managers.

Gov. Fleming has appointed as world's "Good-bys, sor, an' thank ye, sor."

"Good-bys, "Then good-bys, sor, an' thank ye, sor."

"Then good-bys, sor, an' thank ye, sor."

"Good-bys."

The guide to the picture seller: "Do ye see thot sor any sor thank ye, sor."

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AT THE GIANT'S CAUSEWAY. a American Visitor Makes an Unfavorable

From the Detroit Free Press. "Yis, sor. It's many a wan av yure country min Oi've taken over the Causeway, sor." "How do you know what countryman I am?"

"Thrust me for knowing the American accent, sor." "I haven't the American accent. You have it. Go to New York if you don't believe me." "There's many an Otrishman there, I'm

ould, ser."
"More than in Dublin."

"Do ye tell me that, sor? Well, sor, Oi took Gineral Grant himself over the Causeway, and fine mawn he was. An' Gineral Sheridan, too, sor. Many's the great mawn Of've taken over the Causeway, sor. I took the Duke av
Connaught himsilf down this very road, sor,
and do you know what he save to rose sor?

He Cuticura Soap.

Cuticura Soap. and do you know what he says to me, sor? He says, 'Pat,' says he, 'have you had anything to ate the day? 'Saving yer prisince, sor,' says Oi, 'except a bite at breakfast'—an' before the words were out of my mout', says the duke says he, 'Sit down wid us,' says he; an' no ooner said than done, an' Oi had moy lunch with the Duke av Connaught. Do ye moind

"An' Oi've taken great professors over the Causeway, sor—min that knew more in wan minute, sor, than you and Oi wud know in all our loives, sor. Don't you know that there's nothing in the whole wurrold loike the (iiant's Causeway, sor?"
"What for—for mud?"

"The road is a troifle muddy at this time av the year, sor. It's not many comes to see it in the winthar time, sor. Indade, you're the first wan this week. There's a power av rain in the nort of Oireland in the winter toime, sor." 'How much further away is this Causeway?" "Is it the Causeway, sor? But a Ye'll see it the minute we turn that bit av rock, sor. Sure an begorra it's well worth the walk, so for there is no place that is as noted as the S. Causeway, sor. "Yes. They told me about it at Derry. That's why I came. "De ye mane to say, sor, that ye niver heard av the Giant's Causeway till ye came to Derry? Well, sor, Of ve taken tins of thousands av peo-

Well, sor, Of ve taken tins of thousands av peo-ple over this ground, sor, and yure the first wan that iver tould me he never heard av the Canseway. Where were ye brought up?"
"I'm a Belfast man."
"De ye mane thot? Troth! Oi don't think the professors are the biggest loiers, saving

yer prisince, sor.
"Where's your old Causeway? We're round that rock now "Where's the Causeway, is it, sor? Where should it be but just before yer two eyes?"
"You don't mean that foundation, do you?"
"What foundation, sor?"

"Looks like as if a building society had tarted a big stone tabernacle and went bankrupt when the foundation was laid."
"The greatest min in this wurrold, sor, tould "Never mind what the greatest men said. Is

"It is, sor." "Let's get back." "Back, is it, sor? Troth, ye'r not there yet. Divil a fut will Oi go back till ye've seen what

All, right, I'll go on-under protest-merely to please you, you know."
"Of'm afraid ye'r hard to plaze yersilf, sor. "Now, beggin' ye'r pardon, ye'r wrong there, sor. Not the sickond toime, but the twintieth toime have Oi known educated min to come,

sor, the more wondherful he thinks it. Now be careful how you stip, fur it's mighty pery under fut. There are three Cause or, the Great Causeway bein' in the centher and that we'll come to in a minute, sor.
"What is it used for?"

"The Causeway, is it?" "It's used for nothin' at all, sor."
"Then why did they go to all this expense?"

ye paid for, sor.

"What expinee, sor?"
"The building of it?" "Be all the powers, sor, it's surely not run-ning through your hid that the Goiant's Causeway was built by the hand of man, sor!

"Oi see plainly Oi'li hav to begin at the beginnin' wid you, sor. It was built by a mighty convulsion av nathure, sor. papers at the time. It was the beginning of the lrish troubles."
"It was at the beginning of toime, sor. Prof. "Oh, you can't believe what a professor says.
Was he there?"

"He was not." "Well, then!" "If you, sor, will excuse the liberty O'll take, sor, in recommending you to kape silence fur a few minutes, sor, ye'll know a

"All right; go ahead." "These columns, ser, are basaltic. "What's that?"

"It's a term used by Prof. Gneise. Now Oi'll That we call the octagon, meaning eight-sided, as ye can see. And if yer measure the eight sides, sor, yer'll feind them the same to a hair's breadth."

breadth."

"And yet you say nobody chiseled it?"

"Oi do, ser."

"You evidently think I'll believe anything.
But ne matter. Go on, go on."

"Now, if ye'll notice, around this octagon are eight other pillars, forming an octagon group, as we call thim here, sor, all the columns being aqual in size. Now, sor, if ye follow me here, ye will see a sentegon column, from the Latin ye will see a septagon column, from the Latin word maning sivin, and around that there are

"Are there any sixtogon ones?"
"There is not, sor."
"It's a sort of seven-by-eight Causeway. "There, sor. Oi tould ye ye would slip down, sor. A man broke his leg there once. Are ye

badly hurt, sor?"
"Groggy, but still in the ring. Say, are my ousers—"
"They are torn a little, sor, Oi regret to say." "Why the old Harry didn't you tell me this place was so slippory? Do you want to break a man's neck over this Causeway of yours!"
"Sure, sor, Oi warned ye the very first a go. Beggin' you're pardou, sor, if ye'd pay as much attintion to ye'r fut as you do to your tongue—"

attintion to yer fut as you do to your tongue—"

"Who's been doing all the talking? Have I opened my mouth since we started? Well, now that we're down here, what's there to see?"

"You see these columns, sor. They're the tallest in the Causeway. Ye can see their formation now, sor. They're all in short lengths of three or four feet, and every joint is a perfect ball and socket wan."

"What's the object of the ball and socket?"

"Ah, who can tell that, sor?"

"Hadn't the professor some fiction about it?"

"He did say, sor—"
"I was sure of it."

"That it was on account of the uneven cool-

"That it was on account of the uneven cooling of the lava. Now, look at this, sor. This is, be careful, sor. Ye were nearly aff that toime, again. This is the Goiant's Wishin' Chair. If ye sit down here ye can have three wishes, sor."
"I won't sit down."

that now."
"Then ye've met him, sor? Well, Oi suppose ye like company, sor? Well, Of suppose ye like company, sor?"
"Anything else to be seen around here?"
"Do ye see those basaltic columns on the face of the cliff, sor? That's the Goiant's Or-

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